NGO Committee on Sustainable Development, NY

Environmental, social and economic development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

~ “Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change” ~

NGOCSD General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, April 22nd 2015

Ms. Daniela Bas, Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). Ms. Bas is of Italian nationality and was appointed Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSPD/UNDESA) on 9 May 2011. A politologist specialized in international politics, and social development, Ms. Bas has most recently served as Secretary General of the Interministerial Committee for Human Right within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and as Senior Consultant designated by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as expert on social development and human rights to Institutes that operate internationally. She has also provided her expertise on anti-discrimination issues at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in Italy. Ms. Bas has worked for close to 10 years for the UN as a Professional Officer in social development and human rights, traveling around the world on behalf of the UN and also as a speaker at international conventions. In the past she has also held a number of other significant assignments including as Special Adviser on fundamental rights and social policies for the Vice President of the European Commission (Belgium); as the Italian representative designated by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on the topic “Tourism for All” to the European Commission (Belgium); and as journalist and broadcaster for Radio and TV both in Italy and abroad. In 2008 she also got her Master as Business and Life Coach. Ms. Bas until recently was a Board Member of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Austria) and of the Committee to Promote non-Armed and non-Violent Civil Defense within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Italy). She graduated in Political Science in 1985, with a major in International Politics and wrote a dissertation on “The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities”. For more information, please visit: social.un.org and undsn.org

H.E. Mr. Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations. Mr. Patriota is a Brazilian Career diplomat since 1983, currently serving as Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, posted in New York for the second time. He worked mostly with regional and multilateral institutions such as the Organization of American States, Mercosul, the WTO and the World Intellectual Property Organization. He also served for three years in New Zealand. His main dossiers at the Foreign Service included economic development and trade, regional integration, scientific and technological diplomacy, information society and social issues. He was until last August deputy advisor on international affairs to President Dilma Rousseff.

Mr. Christopher King, Senior Political Affairs Officer and Chief of the Political Affairs Unit of the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs. Mr. King joined the United Nations in January 2015 as the Chief of the Strategic Planning Unit in the Office of Disarmament Affairs. Prior to joining the UN, he served in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, most recently as First Secretary in the Australian High Commission to India, from 2011-2014. Mr. King was the Acting Director of the Foreign Service’s Arms Control Section, responsible for Australian disarmament and non-proliferation policy. He has represented Australia at the Conference on Disarmament, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations First Committee, the Nuclear Suppliers Group and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. Mr. King has also acted as an advisor to former Australian Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd and as the Australian Embassy in Iraq. From 2004 to 2006, Mr. King was an Advisor in the National Security Division of the Australian Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, providing advice on counter-terrorism, non-proliferation and intelligence policy. In 2007, he was a United Nations Disarmament Fellow.

Mr. Tim Wright, Director of Asia Pacific of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). This organization is a global coalition of NGOs working to achieve a treaty banning nuclear weapons. ICAN was instrumental to the success of three recent diplomatic conferences held in Norway, Mexico and Austria on the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Ahead of the 2015 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, the campaign is urging all governments to endorse the Pledge issued at the conference in Austria to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. Mr. Wright has degrees in law and international relations from the University of Melbourne, having studied also at SciencesPo in Paris. Prior to joining the ICAN staff team, he worked for the Victorian Council of Civil Liberties and as a political staffer to Senator Lyn Allison, the parliamentary leader of the Australian Democrats.

Ms. Miyako Taguchi, is a Member of the Hibakusha Stories and Founder of Miyako i Studio for Art and Graphic Design. As an accomplished graphic designer, she has made major contributions to diverse projects, from printing and digital to display, for numerous Fortune 500 companies for over 20 years. Both her parents are survivors of the atomic bomb in Nagasaki, Japan. In 2010, she joined Hibakusha Stories, a non-profit organization, which invites survivors of atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to deliver their true experiences to high school students, teachers and adults in New York City. Since then she has been active for nuclear disarmament, delivering her voice as a second generation to peace communities such as Agape community in Massachusetts, Concerned Families of Westchester, and some events at United Nations. She received an honor of Peace Correspondent for Nagasaki from Mayor Taue in 2014. Her belief in power of art and the individual drives her actions for a world of peace.